UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/643,738	08/23/2000	KAZUNORI HORIKIRI	107102	2530

25944 7590 03/04/2004	EXAMINER
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	ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320	2155	8

DATE MAILED: 03/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE _3_ MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on _31 December 2003_.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) _1,3,4,6,8 and 9_ is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) _1,3,4,6,8 and 9_ is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☒ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)	5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ .	6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 2, 5, 7, and 10 have been cancelled and claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, and 9 have

amended. Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, and 9 are pending with this action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the
United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application
by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this
title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act

of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application

being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily

published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35

U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

2.   Claims 1, 3, 4, 6, 8, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being

anticipated by Reed et al. (US 6044205A).

INDEPENDENT:

As per claim 1, Reed teaches of a remote procedure calling (see col.16, line 45-51) expression generation system (see Fig.12) for generating a remote procedure calling expression for requesting a service (see col.11, lines 18-22 & 56-63) composed by combining plural procedures in a resource space (see col.6, lines 36-38) in which a resource object and a procedure for processing the resource object are distributed (see abstract and summary), the system comprising: plural hyperobject means (see Fig.12; col.6, lines 50-61; and col.12, lines 42-47), each of which comprises: procedure calling expression generation rule storage means (see Fig.3 and col.12, lines 39-60) for storing a procedure calling expression generation rule (see col.13, lines 18-19 and col.16, lines 22-54) for generating a procedure calling expression (see col.13, lines 38-46; col.14, line 66 to col.15, line 12; and col.15, lines 21-24); one or more attribute storage means (see Fig.3 and col.12, lines 39-60) for storing an attribute value (see Fig.3, #112 and col.13, lines 14-26); and link storage means (see Fig.3 and col.12, lines 39-60) for storing one or more pieces of link information of the other hyperobject means (see col.15, lines 13-20), wherein; the procedure calling expression generation rule stored in the procedure calling expression generation rule storage means is composed of a character string according to a predetermined syntax rule for describing one or more generation rule elements composed of a reference to the attribute value and/or a reference to a result of the generation of the procedure calling expression in linked hyperobject means; and the hyperobject means is activated in response to a request for generating the procedure calling expression (see col.11, lines 18-25), the system further

comprising: generation rule element extracting means for interpreting the procedure

calling expression generation rule stored in the procedure calling expression rule

storage means according to the predetermined syntax rule and extracting the

generation rule element (see col.2, lines 25-45; and col.16, lines 43-52); means for

searching the attribute storage means if the extracted generation rule element is the

reference to the attribute value and substituting a corresponding attribute value for the

generation rule element (see col.13, lines 29-46; col.23, lines 9-16; col.25, lines 35-41;

and col.28, lines 58-65); and means for issuing the request for generating the procedure

calling expression to the linked hyperobject means if the extracted generation rule

element is the reference to the result of the generation of a procedure calling expression

in the linked hyperobject means and substituting the result of the generation of the

procedure calling expression by the linked hyperobject means for the generation rule

element (see col.15, lines 13-20).

As per claim 4, Reed teaches of a remote procedure calling (see col.16, line 45-

51) expression generation system (see Fig.12) for generating a URL for requesting a

service (see col.11, lines 18-22 & 56-63) composed by combining plural procedure

servers (see col.7, line 30) in a WWW resource space (see col.6, lines 36-38) in which

an HTTP object and a procedure for processing the HTTP object are distributed (see

abstract and summary), the system comprising: plural hyperobject means (see Fig.12;

col.6, lines 50-61; and col.12, lines 42-47), each of which comprising: URL generation

rule storage means (see Fig.3 and col.12, lines 39-60) for storing a URL generation rule

(see col.13, lines 18-19 and col.16, lines 22-54) for generating a URL as a procedure

calling expression (see col.13, lines 38-46; col.14, line 66 to col.15, line 12; and col.15, lines 21-24); one or more attribute storage means (Fig.3 and see col.12, lines 39-60) for storing an attribute value (see Fig.3, #112 and col.13, lines 14-26); and link storage means (see Fig.3 and col.12, lines 39-60) for storing one or more pieces of link information of the other hyperobject means (see col.15, lines 13-20), wherein the URL generation rule stored in the URL generation rule storage means is composed of a character string according to a predetermined syntax rule for describing one or more URL generation rule elements composed of a reference to the attribute value and/or a reference to a result of the generation of the URL in linked hyperobject means; and the hyperobject means is activated in response to a request for generating the URL (see col.11, lines 18-25), the system further comprising: URL generation rule element extracting means for interpreting the URL generation rule stored in the URL generation rule storage means according to the predetermined syntax rule and extracting the URL generation rule element (see col.2, lines 25-45; and col.16, lines 43-52); means for searching the attribute storage means if the extracted URL generation rule element is the reference to the attribute value and substituting a corresponding attribute value for the URL generation rule element (see col.13, lines 29-46; col.23, lines 9-16; col.25, lines 35-41; and col.28, lines 58-65); and means for issuing the request for generating the URL to the linked hyperobject means if the extracted URL generation rule element is the reference to the result of the generation of a URL in the linked hyperobject means and substituting the result of the generation of the URL by the linked hyperobject means for the URL generation rule element (see col.15, lines 13-20).

As per claim 6, Reed teaches a hyperobject (see Fig.12; col.6, lines 50-61; and

col.12, lines 42-47) for generating a remote procedure calling (see col.16, line 45-51)

expression for requesting a service (see col.11, lines 18-22 & 56-63) composed by

combining plural procedures in a resource space (see col.6, lines 36-38) in which a

resource object and a procedure for processing the resource object are distributed (see

abstract and summary), the hyperobject comprising: procedure calling expression

generation rule storage means (see Fig.3 and col.12, lines 39-60) for storing a

procedure calling expression generation rule (see col.13, lines 18-19 and col.16, lines

22-54) for generating a procedure calling expression (see col.13, lines 38-46; col.14,

line 66 to col.15, line 12; and col.15, lines 21-24); one or more attribute storage means

(see Fig.3 and col.12, lines 39-60) for storing an attribute value (see Fig.3, #112 and

col.13, lines 14-26); and link storage means (see Fig.3 and col.12, lines 39-60) for

storing one or more pieces of link information of the other hyperobjects (see col.15,

lines 13-20), wherein: the procedure calling expression generation rule stored in the

procedure calling expression generation rule storage means is composed of a character

string according to a predetermined syntax rule for describing one or more generation

rule elements composed of a reference to an attribute value and/or a reference to a

result of the generation of the procedure calling expression in a linked hyperobject; and

the hyperobject means is activated in response to a request for generating the

procedure calling expression (see col.11, lines 18-25), the system further comprising:

generation rule element extracting means for interpreting the procedure calling

expression generation rule stored in the procedure calling expression rule storage

means according to the predetermined syntax rule and extracting the generation rule

element (see col.2, lines 25-45; and col.16, lines 43-52); means for searching the

attribute storage means if the extracted generation rule element is the reference to the

attribute value and substituting a corresponding attribute value for the generation rule

element (see col.13, lines 29-46; col.23, lines 9-16; col.25, lines 35-41; and col.28, lines

58-65); and means for issuing the request for generating the procedure calling

expression to the linked hyperobject means if the extracted generation rule element is

the reference to the result of the generation of a procedure calling expression in the

linked hyperobject means and substituting the result of the generation of the procedure

calling expression by the linked hyperobject means for the generation rule element (see

col.15, lines 13-20).

As per claim 9, Reed teaches a hyperobject (see Fig.12; col.6, lines 50-61; and

col.12, lines 42-47) for generating a URL for requesting a service (see col.11, lines 18-

22 & 56-63) composed by combining plural procedure servers (see col.7, line 30) in a

WWW resource space (see col.6, lines 36-38) in which an HTTP object and a

procedure for processing the HTTP object are distributed (see abstract and summary),

the hyperobject comprising: URL generation rule storage means (see Fig.3 and col.12,

lines 39-60) for storing a URL generation rule (see col.13, lines 18-19 and col.16, lines

22-54) for generating a URL as a procedure calling expression (see col.13, lines 38-46;

col.14, line 66 to col.15, line 12; and col.15, lines 21-24); one or more attribute storage

means (see Fig.3 and col.12, lines 39-60) for storing an attribute value(see Fig.3, #112

and col.13, lines 14-26); and link storage means (see Fig.3 and col.12, lines 39-60) for

storing one or more pieces of link information of the other hyperobjects (see col.15,

lines 13-20), wherein the URL generation rule stored in the URL generation rule storage

means is composed of a character string according to a predetermined syntax rule for

describing one or more URL generation rule elements composed of a reference to the

attribute value and/or a reference to a result of the generation of the URL in a linked

hyperobject (see col.13, lines 16-18, 29-31, and 38-46; col.16, lines 1-53; and col.29,

lines 40-48); and the hyperobject means is activated in response to a request for

generating the URL (see col.11, lines 18-25), the system further comprising: URL

generation rule element extracting means for interpreting the URL generation rule

stored in the URL generation rule storage means according to the predetermined syntax

rule and extracting the URL generation rule element (see col.2, lines 25-45; and col.16,

lines 43-52); means for searching the attribute storage means if the extracted URL

generation rule element is the reference to the attribute value and substituting a

corresponding attribute value for the URL generation rule element (see col.13, lines 29-

46; col.23, lines 9-16; col.25, lines 35-41; and col.28, lines 58-65); and means for

issuing the request for generating the URL to the linked hyperobject means if the

extracted URL generation rule element is the reference to the result of the generation of

a URL in the linked hyperobject means and substituting the result of the generation of

the URL by the linked hyperobject means for the URL generation rule element (see

col.15, lines 13-20).

DEPENDENT:

As per claims 3 and 8, Reed further teaches wherein the hyperobject is an

object-oriented program for generating a hypertext (see col.12, lines 42-47).

Response to Arguments

3.   In response to applicant's arguments, the recitation "a method and apparatus for

generating a remote procedure calling expression" has not been given patentable

weight because the recitation occurs in the preamble. A preamble is generally not

accorded any patentable weight where it merely recites the purpose of a process or the

intended use of a structure, and where the body of the claim does not depend on the

preamble for completeness but, instead, the process steps or structural limitations are

able to stand alone. See *In re Hirao*, 535 F.2d 67, 190 USPQ 15 (CCPA 1976) and

Kropa v. Robie, 187 F.2d 150, 152, 88 USPQ 478, 481 (CCPA 1951). Furthermore,

Reed does teach that "method may also be a remote procedure call..." (see col.16, lines

45-51).

4.   In response to the argument regarding the element of "means for searching the

attribute storage means if the extracted generation rule element is the reference to the

attribute value and substituting a corresponding attribute value for the generation rule

element", this limitation is implicit because Reed teaches of "principle object classes"

(see col.13, lines 29-46), easily searching data in an object-oriented database (see

col.28, lines 58-65), and searching of the database for all class instances for matching

attributes as well as resetting the attributes to prepare the database (see col.25, lines

35-41). Therefore searching by means of matching elements to attributes in an object-

oriented environment is neither novel nor an inventive functional step.

Conclusion

5.   Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in

this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP

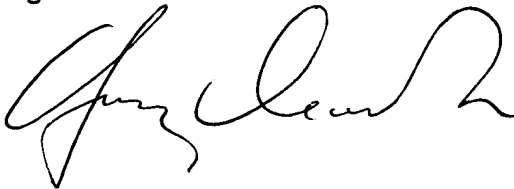§ 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37

CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

6.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Young N Won whose telephone number is 703-605-4241. The examiner can normally be reached on M-Th: 6AM-3PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain T Alam can be reached on 703-308-6662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Young N Won

February 23, 2004

HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER